



Susan Bysiewicz
SECRETARY OF THE STATE
CONNECTICUT

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- NEWS RELEASE -

**SECRETARY BYSIEWICZ URGES SEN. DELUCA TO RESIGN
NOW, SPARE TAXPAYERS EXPENSE OF COMMITTEE HEARINGS
AND POTENTIAL SPECIAL ELECTION**

**SPECIAL SESSION ALONE WILL COST TAXPAYERS THOUSANDS OF
DOLLARS EACH DAY**

Hartford: Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz renewed her call today for Sen. DeLuca to resign his seat, and spare taxpayers the formidable expense of holding committee hearings and perhaps a special election.

“Because of Senator DeLuca’s unwillingness to do the right thing, Senate President Pro Tem Donald Williams and Senate Minority Leader John McKinney had no choice but to call for the formation of this committee,” said Bysiewicz. “I applaud both Sen. Williams and McKinney for creating a bi-partisan process for dealing with misconduct of its members.”

The senate committee hearings, which will reportedly be held this fall, could cost taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars (the total could reach several million dollars if expulsion is recommended) and ensure that DeLuca remains in office for at least another three months. According to the Office of Legislative Management,

a typical legislative special session costs taxpayers \$10,000 each day. (This special session would only include the State Senate and would therefore most likely cost less).

“It’s unfortunate that Sen. DeLuca is making a bad situation worse by not resigning now,” said Bysiewicz. “His actions will hit taxpayers in the wallet and further erode public trust in government officials, just as the state is preparing for municipal elections. DeLuca’s actions only increase the distrust and disgust many people have for their government and that results in, among other things, low voter turnout.”

On June 21st, Secretary Bysiewicz first called on Sen. DeLuca to resign, and urged him to make it effective no later than September 18th – ensuring that the election for the empty senate seat could be held on the date of the general election in November. A separate special election for DeLuca’s seat could cost taxpayers in the senate district as much as \$250,000.

According to Connecticut General Statute 9-215, if a seat in the General Assembly is vacated anywhere between 49 and 125 days before the next November general election, the election for that seat is held on the date of the general election and a separate special election is avoided. Considering this year’s General Election will be held on Nov. 6th, a separate special election for Sen. DeLuca’s seat can be avoided if he resigned between July 4th and September 18th.

Sen. DeLuca represents the towns of Bethlehem, Bridgewater, Middlebury, Oxford, Roxbury, Seymour, Southbury, Thomaston, Watertown, and Woodbury.

According to state statute, “When any member or member-elect of the General Assembly resigns, the member or member-elect shall resign by notifying the Secretary of the State of the member's or member-elect's decision...”

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